

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

- 1 1. (currently amended) A communication system including:
 - 2 a communication network;
 - 3 a plurality of terminal devices connectable to said communication
 - 4 network for transmitting from a sender and receiving by a user an information
 - 5 item through said communication network;
 - 6 wherein said communication system includes a table which provides at
 - 7 least one retrieval condition and for each said retrieval condition at least one
 - 8 corresponding display method identifying identifier ~~identifier~~ for an image or sound file
 - 9 to be displayed, so as to enable said terminal devices of said user to detect in
 - 10 said information item from said sender said at least one retrieval condition and
 - 11 if the retrieval condition is detected in said information item by said user's
 - 12 terminal device to display said information item with said at least one
 - 13 corresponding identified image or sound file, the corresponding image or
 - 14 sound file being distinct from said information item,
 - 15 a display, at a terminal device at a receiving user of said information
 - 16 item, of said image or sound file when said receiving terminal device detects
 - 17 said corresponding identifier in said information item,
 - 18 means for obtaining necessary data from said table for said display of
 - 19 said image or sound file, if said table includes said necessary data, and
 - 20 means for obtaining said necessary data for said display of said image
 - 21 or sound file, if said table does not include said necessary data, said table
 - 22 instead including designating data which designates said necessary data.

1 2. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein each retrieval condition in said table comprises a key object.

1 3. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 2,
2 wherein each said key object comprises at least one object selected from the
3 group consisting of key words and key marks.

1 4-5. (canceled)

1 6. (original) The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
2 table is editable.

1 7. (original) The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
2 table is transferable through said communication network.

1 8. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein said information item comprises an e-mail.

1 9. (original) The communication system as claimed in claim 8, wherein said
2 e-mail has at least an attached file.

1 10. (original) The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
2 table is stored in a memory of said terminal device.

1 11. (original) The communication system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
2 table is open on a server computer on said communication network, so as to
3 enable said terminal device to download said table from said server.

1 12. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein each of said terminal devices includes:

3 a first function block for performing said retrieval under said retrieval
4 condition with reference to said table; and

5 a second function block for displaying said information item with said
6 at least one corresponding identified image or sound file.

1 13. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in
2 claim 12, wherein each of said terminal devices further includes:

3 a third function block for transmitting and receiving said table through
4 said communication network.

1 14. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in claim 1,
2 wherein each of said terminal devices includes:

3 a processing unit; and

4 a memory accessible by said processing unit, and said memory storing
5 a computer program comprising:

6 means for performing said retrieval under said at least one retrieval
7 condition with reference to said table; and

8 means for displaying on said display said information item with said at
9 least one corresponding identified image or sound file.

1 15. (previously presented) The communication system as claimed in
2 claim 14, wherein said computer program further comprises means for
3 transmitting and receiving said table through said communication network.

1 16. (currently amended) A terminal device connectable to a communication
2 network, said terminal device comprising:

3 a processing unit;
4 a communication unit electrically coupled to said processing unit for
5 transmitting and receiving an information item;
6 a display unit electrically coupled to said processing unit for
7 displaying said information item;
8 an operation unit electrically coupled to said processing unit for
9 operating said terminal device;
10 a memory unit electrically coupled to said processing unit for storing a
11 table which provides at least one retrieval condition and for each said retrieval
12 condition at least one corresponding display method identifying an identified
13 image or sound file, so as to enable a said terminal device of a user to detect
14 in an information item transmitted from a said terminal device of a sender said
15 at least one retrieval condition and if the retrieval condition is detected to
16 display said information item with said at least one corresponding identified
17 image or sound file, the corresponding image or sound file being distinct from
18 said information item,
19 a display, on said display unit, of said image or sound file when said
20 receiving terminal device detects said corresponding identifier in said
21 information item,
22 means for obtaining necessary data from said table for said display of
23 said image or sound file, if said table includes said necessary data, and
24 means for obtaining said necessary data for said display of said image
25 or sound file, if said table does not include said necessary data, said table
26 instead including designating data which designates said necessary data.

1 17. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16,
2 wherein each retrieval condition in said table comprises a key object.

1 18. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 17,
2 wherein each said key object comprise at least one object selected from the
3 group consisting of key words and key marks.

1 19-20. (canceled)

1 21. (original) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said table
2 is editable.

1 22. (original) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16, wherein said table
2 is transferable from said communication unit through said communication
3 network.

1 23. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16,
2 wherein said information item comprises an e-mail.

1 24. (original) The terminal device as claimed in claim 23, wherein said
2 e-mail has at least an attached file.

1 25. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16,
2 wherein said terminal device includes:
3 a first function block for performing said retrieval under said at least
4 one retrieval condition with reference to said table; and
5 a second function block for displaying said information item with said
6 at least one corresponding identified image or sound file.

1 26. (original) The terminal device as claimed in claim 25, wherein said
2 terminal device further includes:

3 a third function block for transmitting and receiving said table through
4 said communication network.

1 27. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 16,
2 wherein said memory stores a computer program comprising:
3 means for performing said retrieval under said at least one retrieval
4 condition with reference to said table; and
5 means for displaying said information item with said at least one
6 corresponding identified image or sound file.

1 28. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 27,
2 wherein said computer program further comprises means for transmitting and
3 receiving said table through said communication network.

1 29. (currently amended) A terminal device connectable to a communication
2 network, said terminal device including
3 means for detecting in an information item a retrieval condition, said
4 information item and said retrieval condition having been transmitted over
5 said communication network by a said terminal device of a sender to a said
6 terminal device of a user;
7 a display unit for displaying said information item with at least one
8 image or sound file identified as corresponding to each said detected retrieval
9 condition, the image or sound file being distinct from said information item,
10 a table which identifies said retrieval condition and each said
11 identified image or sound file corresponding to said retrieval condition,
12 a display, on said display unit, of said identified image or sound file
13 when said detecting means detects said corresponding ~~identifier~~ retrieval
14 condition in said information item,

15 means for obtaining necessary data from said table for said display of
16 said at least one identified image or sound file, if said table includes said
17 necessary data, and

18 means for obtaining said necessary data for display of said at least one
19 identified image or sound file, if said table does not include said necessary
20 data, said table instead including designating data which designates said
21 necessary data.

1 30. (canceled)

1 31. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 29,
2 wherein each retrieval condition in said table comprises a key object.

1 32-33. (canceled)

1 34. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 29,
2 wherein said table is editable.

1 35. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 29,
2 wherein said table is transferable from a communication unit through said
3 communication network.

1 36. (previously presented) The terminal device as claimed in claim 29,
2 wherein said information item comprises an e-mail.

1 37. (original) The terminal device as claimed in claim 36, wherein said
2 e-mail has at least an attached file.

1 38. (currently amended) A method of displaying information, comprising the
2 steps of:
3 detecting in an information item a retrieval condition, said retrieval
4 condition having been inserted in said information item by a sender and said
5 information item having been transmitted over a communication network by
6 said sender to a user;
7 displaying said information item with at least one display method
8 identifying an image or sound file ~~identified~~ as corresponding to said detected
9 retrieval condition, the image or sound file being distinct from said
10 information item,
11 wherein said retrieval condition and each said display method
12 identifying an ~~identified~~ image or sound file corresponding to said retrieval
13 condition is recorded in a table and said detecting is performed with reference
14 to each of one or more retrieval conditions in said table, said displaying being
15 performed for each detected retrieval condition,
16 obtaining necessary data from said table for said displaying said
17 identified image or sound file with said information item, if said table includes
18 said necessary data, and
19 obtaining said necessary data for said displaying said identified image
20 or sound file with said information item, if said table does not include said
21 necessary data, said table instead including designating data which designates
22 said necessary data,
23 wherein said sender and said user are each capable of executing said
24 method.

1 39. (canceled)

1 40. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein each
2 retrieval condition in said table comprises a key object.

1 41. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 40, wherein each
2 said key object comprises at least one object selected from the group
3 consisting of key words and key marks.

1 42. (canceled)

1 43. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 38, further
2 comprising the step of: reading out said necessary data in accordance with
3 said designating data before displaying said information item, if said table
4 does not include said necessary data.

1 44. (canceled)

1 45. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 38, wherein said
2 information item comprises an e-mail.

1 46. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein said
2 e-mail has at least an attached file.

1 47. (currently amended) A computer implemented system for displaying
2 information, said computer system having software modules stored thereon
3 and having a processor operable to execute the software modules, the software
4 modules comprising:

5 first computer code for detecting in an information item a retrieval
6 condition, said retrieval condition having been inserted in said information

7 item by a sender and said information item having been transmitted over a
8 communication network by said sender to a user; and
9 second computer code for displaying said information item with at
10 least one display method identifying an image or sound file ~~identified as~~
11 corresponding to said detected retrieval condition, the image or sound file
12 being distinct from said information item,
13 wherein said retrieval condition and each said display method
14 identifying an ~~identified~~ image or sound file corresponding to said retrieval
15 condition is recorded in a table and said detecting is performed with reference
16 to each of one or more retrieval conditions in said table, said displaying being
17 performed for each detected retrieval condition, said sender and said user each
18 being capable of executing said method,
19 a terminal device for display of said image or sound file when said
20 second computer code detects said corresponding identifier in said
21 information item,
22 third computer code for obtaining necessary data from said table for
23 display on said terminal device of said image or sound file, if said table
24 includes said necessary data, and
25 fourth computer code for obtaining said necessary data for display on
26 said terminal device of said image or sound file, if said table does not include
27 said necessary data, said table instead including designating data which
28 designates said necessary data.

1 48. (canceled)

1 49. (previously presented) The computer program as claimed in claim 47,
2 wherein each retrieval condition in said table comprises a key object.

1 50. (previously presented) The computer program as claimed in claim 49,
2 wherein each said key object comprises at least one object selected from the
3 group consisting of key words and key marks.

1 51. (canceled)

1 52. (previously presented) The computer program as claimed in claim 47,
2 further comprising means for reading out said necessary data in accordance
3 with said designating data before displaying said information item, if said
4 table does not include said necessary data.

1 53. (canceled)

1 54. (previously presented) The computer program as claimed in claim 47,
2 wherein said information item comprises an e-mail.

1 55. (previously presented) The computer program as claimed in claim 54,
2 wherein said e-mail has at least an attached file.